

STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD

RESOLUTION NO. 68-17

ADOPTING SUPPLEMENTAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL
POLICY FOR SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

WHEREAS:

1. On June 14, 1967, the former State Water Quality Control Board adopted water quality control policy for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. On June 23, 1967, this and other policies for California's interstate and coastal waters were submitted to the Secretary of the Interior as proposed federal water pollution control standards pursuant to the provisions of the Federal Water Pollution Control Act.
2. After reviewing these policies, the Federal Water Pollution Control Administration regional staff advised this Board that in its opinion the water quality criteria in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta policy does not adequately protect all of the beneficial uses identified in that policy. This regional staff has offered for consideration of the Board "Proposed Supplemental Delta Water Quality Standards for Chloride and Total Dissolved Solids Concentration", which contains additional criteria that have been developed within the Department of the Interior.
3. All but two of the proposed supplemental standards are similar to Delta water quality criteria approved November 19, 1965, by representatives of the United States Bureau of Reclamation, California Department of Water Resources, Sacramento River Delta Water Association and San Joaquin Water Rights Committee, as an appropriate basis for further negotiations leading to agreements between Delta interests and the operators of federal and state projects.
4. The former State Water Rights Board approved applications of the Department of Water Resources for the appropriation of water of the Feather River and Delta subject to the November 19, 1965, Delta water quality criteria, but said Board concluded after lengthy hearings that sufficient information was not available to finally determine what further requirements should be imposed, and said Board reserved jurisdiction over the permits for the purpose of formulating and revising terms and conditions relative to salinity control in the Delta, with the provision that prior to June 30, 1970, the Board will "hear, review and make such further order relative to salinity control as may be required." A reservation of jurisdiction was also included in permits

issued to the United States Bureau of Reclamation to appropriate water of the Sacramento River and Delta. The Board now intends to hold such further hearings during the year 1969.

5. Maintenance of desirable salinity objectives in the Delta is dependent upon the manner in which the federal and state water projects are operated pursuant to their respective water right permits. For this reason water quality and water rights in the Delta are completely interrelated, it being impossible to properly consider one without the other.
6. In the past, negotiations between the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the Department of Water Resources with Delta interests have been hampered by lack of an agency authorized to represent the landowners and water users. In 1968 the California Legislature created the Delta Water Agency with power to contract with the United States and the State for the purpose of protecting water in the Delta against intrusion of ocean salinity and assuring lands in the Delta a dependable water supply of suitable quality to meet present and future needs. The law creating this agency will take effect in November 1968.
7. In 1965 the California Legislature authorized a special study of a comprehensive master plan for control of water pollution in the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. A report of this study will be submitted to the Legislature in the spring of 1969.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

1. Adoption of salinity objectives for the western Delta should be coordinated with the terms of water right permits of the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources and only those objectives which are consistent with said permit terms should be adopted at this time.
2. The water quality objectives contained in the attached "Supplemental Water Quality Control Policy for Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta" are the same as Articles C and D of the "November 19, 1965, Delta water criteria." Said policy is adopted as an addition to the "Water Quality Control Policy for Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta" which was adopted by the former State Water Quality Control Board on June 14, 1967.
3. Additional water quality objectives for the Delta will be considered after further water right hearings are conducted by this Board in 1969.

4. A copy of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Secretary of the Interior as part of California's water quality control policy submission.

Attachment

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned, Executive Officer of the State Water Resources Control Board, does hereby certify that the foregoing is a full, true, and correct copy of a resolution duly and regularly adopted at a meeting of the State Water Resources Control Board held on October 24, 1968.

Dated: October 28, 1968

Kerry W. Mulligan
Executive Officer
State Water Resources
Control Board

SUPPLEMENTAL WATER QUALITY CONTROL POLICY
FOR SACRAMENTO-SAN JOAQUIN DELTA

- A. Definitions: The definitions of certain terms used in these objectives are as follows:
1. "Critical year" shall mean any year in which either of the following eventualities exists:
 - a. The forecasted full natural inflow to Shasta Lake for the current water year (October 1 of the preceding calendar year through September 30 of the current calendar year) is equal to or less than 3,200,000 acre-feet; or
 - b. The total accumulated actual deficiencies below 4,000,000 acre-feet in the immediately prior water year or series of successive prior water years each of which had inflows of less than 4,000,000 acre-feet, together with the forecasted deficiency for the current water year, exceed 800,000 acre-feet.
 2. "Dry year" shall mean any year other than a critical year in which the forecasted full natural inflow to Shasta Lake for the current water year is equal to or less than 4,000,000 acre-feet.
 3. "Below normal year" shall mean any year in which the forecasted full natural inflow to Shasta Lake for the current water year is equal to or less than 4,500,000 acre-feet but more than 4,000,000 acre-feet.
 4. "Full natural inflow to Shasta Lake" shall mean the computed inflow to Shasta Lake under present water development above Shasta Lake. In the event that a major water project is completed above Shasta Lake after September 1, 1963, which materially alters the present regimen of the stream systems contributing to Shasta Lake, the computed inflow to Shasta Lake will be adjusted to eliminate the effect of such water project. After consultation with the State, the Weather Bureau, and other recognized forecasting agencies, the United States Bureau of Reclamation will select the forecast to be used and will make the details of it available to the Delta water users. The same forecasts used by the United States for the operation of the Central Valley Project shall be used to make the forecasts under this agreement. Such forecasts shall be made by February 15 of each year and may be revised as frequently thereafter as conditions and information warrant.

B. Water Quality Objectives:

1. At Jersey Point in the San Joaquin River and at Emmaton (southwest end of Horseshoe Bend) in the Sacramento River, a mean daily chloride content of 1,000 parts per million or less when measured on the basis of the average mean daily value for any 10 consecutive days, except that after August 1 of a critical year and until December 31 of the same calendar year, the quality criteria set forth above may be increased from 1,000 parts per million to 1,400 parts per million of chloride.
2. At Jersey Point in the San Joaquin River and at Emmaton in the Sacramento River, an average mean daily chloride content of 200 parts per million or less for a period of at least 10 consecutive days each year at sometime during the period between April 1 and May 31, except in dry or critical years.
3. At Terminous in Little Potato Slough, at Rio Vista in the Sacramento River, at San Andreas Landing in the San Joaquin River, at Clifton Court Ferry in Old River, and after the initial operation of the Peripheral Canal, at the bifurcation of Middle River and Old River,
 - a. A mean daily total dissolved solids content of 700 parts per million or less when measured on the basis of the average mean daily value for any 10 consecutive days,
 - b. A mean monthly total dissolved solids content of 500 parts per million or less when measured on the basis of the average mean daily value for any calendar month,
 - c. A mean annual total dissolved solids content of 450 parts per million or less when measured on the basis of the average mean daily value for any calendar year.
4. After April 1 in a dry or critical year and after August 1 in a below normal year and until December 31 of the same calendar year, the total dissolved solids criteria specified in Article B, Part 3, may reach, but not exceed, 800 parts per million for item a, 600 parts per million for item b, and 500 parts per million for item c; provided, however, the average of the values of the total dissolved solids content at all of the named locations shall not exceed, for the balance of the calendar year, the mean values specified in Article B, Part 3.

5. Whenever the recorded total dissolved solids content in the Sacramento River at Green's Landing exceeds a mean 10-day or a mean monthly value of 150 parts per million, the quality criteria in Article B, Parts 3 and 4, may be changed by adding to those values the product of 1-1/2 times the amount by which the recorded total dissolved solids content at Green's Landing exceeds 150.

C. Implementation

The implementation of these objectives shall be obtained through the conditioning of water right permits issued to the United States Bureau of Reclamation and the California Department of Water Resources for projects affecting the Delta.